



Somali Observatory of Conflict and Violence Prevention (OCVP)



Review Letter January – June 2012

Message from the Director



Dear Partners and Friends,

The vision of the OCV is to become a leading institution in peace and conflict in Somalia. The OCV will accomplish this through research, community training and by reviewing standardizing and disseminating lessons learned. We also aim to create strong partnerships with both local and international academic and research institutions.

The OCV was founded in 2009 and by the first half of 2012 saw us making significant progress towards achieving our mandated goals. The following pages present a summary of some of the activities and achievements of the last six month of this year, 2012.

- The five District Baseline Reports of Conflict and Insecurity conducted by OCV and its partners and funded by UNDP-Somalia has been finally published and distributed to all the stakeholders.
- We launched new District Conflict and Security Assessments across Somalia.
- We trained 10 young researchers from East African University in Puntland who are currently conducting District Conflict and Security Assessments in the Puntland region of Somalia.
- We designed participatory research tools and created database for University of Hargeis Legal Aid Clinic under UNDP Access to Justice Project.
- We trained an additional 8 District Safety Committees from Mogadisho and 40 participants learned how to apply tools for conflict analysis, mediation and negotiation skills as well as conflict sensitivity.
- We contextualized community-security manuals developed by Saferworld while we developed contextualized manuals on areas of Peace-building, Social Skills, Governance and Citizenship as well as Justice and Rule of Law.
- Our partnership with local Universities was consolidated by the signing of Memorandum of Understanding with Mogadisho University, East African University and Amoud University.
- We made progress by reaching out and collaborating with international research institutions and organizations; including Centre on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation (CGCC), Integrity Research and Consultancy, Japanese Centre on Conflict Prevention (JCCP) and Transitional Initiatives for Somalia (TIS).
- We participated in several regional and international conferences on security and governance.

OCVP has been fortunate to benefit from the continuing support of our main funding partner, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Somalia, in particular, the Armed Violence Reduction project within the Governance and Rule of Law and Security Programme and all the above mentioned activities and achievements would have not been possible without their support.

Even-though the OCPV has made tremendous progress towards achieving its mandated goals, we strongly believe that there is still long way to go for achieving a sustainable peace in Somalia. Therefore, our wish is to continue working with community and assist them to manage their conflict until all Somalis achieve the peace they deserve.

Let us together invest peace and peace will definitely pay off.

Abdullahi Mohammed Odowa

Director

Training Department

The Training Department of the OCPV develops highly contextualized training manuals that are designed to balance international literature with traditional Somali expertise and knowledge on peace and conflict studies. The department was established to organize and coordinate training workshops for peace and security actors at district, regional and national levels. Below are some of the activities implemented by the department during the first six months of this year, the 2012.

Foundation Training for members of District Safety Committees from 8 Districts in Mogadishu 2012.



Members from one of the districts Safety Committees from Mogadishu analyzing their district insecurity issues In January,

Alone we go faster, but together we go further

Research Department

The OCPV Research Department was established to professionalize and institutionalize data collection and analysis on issues related to conflict and security at district, region and national levels. In order to better understand the complexity and multi-dimensionality of Somali conflict, the Research Department adapts a mixed-method approach of inquiry; adapting both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Furthermore, the department assists other local partners in building their research capacity by training their research staff and conducting Joint-research with them. Below is the list of some activities implemented by OCPV Research Department during first six months of this year.

District Safety and Security Assessment



OCPV research team conducting a focus group discussion with traditional and religious leaders from District of Burao during Burao District Conflict and Security Assessment in April, 2012.



The OCPV training researchers from East Africa University in Bossaso; Puntland in May, 2012

Contact Us

University of Hargeisa Pepsi Area

www.ocvp.org or www.somalipeacebuilding.org

info@ocvp.org

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Knowledge Management Department

An exhilarating half for the Knowledge Management Department (KnoMaD)!

Our Database and Website Administrator was invited to maintain the Somali Community Safety Framework (SCSF) Website (www.somalipeacebuilding.org) at UNDP Somalia in Nairobi. The website has been introduced in 2009 as the hub of all SCSF partners, now containing all the documents since the launching of the project. Further involvement of KnoMaD was required to phase in new interactive section for the anticipated Youth for Change (YFC).

The KnoMaD had collaborated with Legal aid clinic of the University of Hargeisa on assessment of strengthening Justice Provision in somaliland the role of the Knowmad was to review and contextualize the study tools, creation of database, training for data clerks as well as analyzing the collected data.

We have supported troubleshoot of DREAM registration software for Youth at Risk (YAR) project across all centres in Bossaso, Burao, Galkayo and Mogadishu. We have also travelled to Bossaso and Mogadishu with software designers and UNDP consultants to evaluate our team and fix the bugs. Furthermore, we have been also continuously reporting on Youth at Risk (YAR) across Somaliland/Somalia.



Youth SMS Registration Software Training in February, 2012.

Documents related to above activities are available online at the OCVF website: www.ocvp.org

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